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## NO. 574

LIFE IN ASIA MINOR.  
TER FROM MARY IRVI

to the Editor of the National Review.

So little is it known of the means of life in these interior cities of Asia Minor, that some extracts from this high-land land may serve to instruct as well as to amuse your readers.

This city of Sivas, seated among environing hills, on a plateau some four thousand feet above the level of the sea, enjoys a fine, dry, temperate climate, with a few days of snow in the summer heat. The winters are long, dull, and dreary, with frequent snow storms, blustering, and cold; but their discomforts are little heeded by the well-nurtured natives, who shut themselves within walls of stone, mud, and mortar, two or three feet thick, wrapping themselves in furs and woollens, and unveiling their faces only when they go forth to spend their days in a manner, however uninteresting, most agreeable to themselves. The poor little children suffer most, as they are often left to run, with bare, purple feet, over the uncarpeted stone floors. This mode of treatment

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from Wisconsin, from Illinois and from South Carolina, from Massachusetts and from Mississippi, and stationing those volunteers around the country, and I am sure that I have no man whom you impose upon—that people against their will! Then I suppose there will be persons who will say that I am not going to do that, will restore peace in that way, and localize the Kansas difficulty! No sir. The moment you begin to do that, you are placing upon their remembrance and upon that people against their own will, the responsibility of maintaining this difficulty, and pledged yourself to nationalized that Government at the point of the bayonet. I am not going to do that, I command. You have legalized civil war instead of localizing the Kansas quarrel. These are the consequences of such a policy, and such are the consequences, if we proceed in this way, of forcing a Constitution on a people against their will. I hope I may be mistaken, but I am not going to do that, I command. But, while such are my convictions, I must be permitted to express them. If my doing so will cause any man, from whatever quarter, high or low, from any State, to take an opposite section, I must repent those assaults; but I do not choose to go up any crinoline and to go down any crinoline. I am not a former phase of this question. I am willing that my consistency should be judged of by the

to live through it. So that  
the children whom we meet are

And ruddy, it is not uncommon to find the parents have buried more than the number still surviving.

After our first day's hikes, the routes from Toccoa to Strickland and the mountain road, impassable in winter from the snows; a wider summer road, impassable in spring, from the melting of the snows, which swell the unbridged rivers; and a more accommodating, but longer pathway, which will probably be the guide to the projected railway. Along the first named of these highways we took our "winding way," on the last morning of August. The ascent was quite steep for some hundreds of feet, until we reached the rim of the hill-basin which closes the mountain. From the top of the hill we looked down on the red roofs and brown walls of the town, and the green fields and vineyards in their emerald setting of flourishing vineyards. We waved farewell to them for a time, and descended the mountain. Before many hours, we were in as well a

**LIFE IN PARIS.**

PARIS, December 3, 1857.

*Close of the Hunts at Compiègne—The Meeting of the Legislative Body—Mr. Dupin, Attorney General—The Money Crisis—A Deploable Accident at the Citadel of Vincennes—Madame de Wilhau, of New York City—Curious Statistics—A Letter of Madame de Maintenon—Living in Paris—An Example of the Extravagance of Ladies of the Present Day.*

To the Editor of the National Era:

We are without political news of moment. The time of the meeting of the International Congress is not yet made known; and until it is, things must remain in *status quo*.

Emperor Napoleon has closed the hunts at Compiègne for this season, and has returned to the Tuilleries.

The legislative body met on the 28th ultimo, and is now regularly at work.

gets from thirty-five to forty francs a chambermaid, from thirty to forty francs a month, men servants, from fifty to sixty francs a month, and the domestic. The servants fetch water, fuel, nor do they scrub. It is universally done out of the house. Two hundred francs are paid from one to two dollars a month. The frocks of the chambermaids run to fifteen cents per room. Wood is the pound; two hundred pounds of oak wood one dollar and a quarter. One hundred pounds of coal is sold for one dollar and a half. Cooking is generally done with the latter; the kitchen ranges are properly constructed in use. Grates are almost unknown, and the article used in fire-places being almost primitive construction, they are not so hot as in this country, but are not so little heat.

Meats are exceedingly dear; they cost twenty cents a pound. A pair of fine chickens costs from one to two dollars, and two and three cents apiece. Butter from thirty to fifty cents a pound.

Vegetables for the poor citizens cost fifteen cents a pound. Lettuce is sold for two and but little used in the culinary display.

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mountain is ordinarily a very steep climb, but was limited, in our case, to a few steps, the heads of our horses

everywhere loomed through the mist, though by no means such pine trees as our Western forests can show. Sweet wild flowers—the clover, the cornflower, the poppy, the bluebell—were everywhere, but I could not find any of the native name nor notice in Wood's *Botanical* peeped up from road-side and hill-top.

Nine hours' steady riding brought us to the mud-brick village of Gharzin, our half-way stage. The village, with its many minarets and cattle-trenches, stands on a high elevation at the foot of Yedig Dagh, (Seven Mountain), a beautiful peak, probably of volcanic origin, which rises abruptly to a height of about 10,000 feet and commands a view of the far-away Black Sea. The natives have a curious story about the rising of the sun, as beheld from this point of view. They say that the sun is a great universal geographical deity. They say the sun ascended to the surface of the sea, and gives or comes to disengage himself from the water. Then the ether is torn asunder, and the sun, his downward course arrested, turns back skyward, again to be overwhelmed. Apollo

the will of Louis Philippe, has accepted from the hands of the Emperor the office of Attorney General, to the great astonishment of the public. Monsieur Dupin is seventy-five years of age, and is possessed of riches. But such is the inconsistency of fortune, that he is now poor.

The money crisis seems to have subsided in France. In Berlin and Hamburg the failures are numerous, and it is feared that some of the first houses of those two places will yet have to suspend. Russia, alone, seems to be free from that epidemic; which is very natural, since she has but little or no commerce.

On Sunday morning, the 30th ultimo, a deplorable accident took place at the citadel of Vincennes. The interior of the buttressed entrance tower, dating as far back as 1333—the only part of the old fortress remaining intact—suddenly fell in with a tremendous crash, burying some twenty soldiers on guard, and several others confined in a room above, used as a soldiers' mess.

Twenty cents a pound; coffee, forty cents a pound; sugar, fifty cents a pound; tea, one dollar and sixty cents a pound; pressed, five and six cents a pound; and quality. Washing is estimated by the yard according to the size and style of ornament, averaging somewhat less than in the States.

A common seamstress gets thirty cents, with three meals, a day. A carriage-horse costs about twelve hundred dollars a year. A good day's work of a seamstress, to furnish a fine carriage with stablets, to command, for the same amount.

Schooling for boys or girls averages \$1.00 a week. A good day's work of a shoemaker, for two to three hundred dollars a year. Music teachers, from seventy-five to two dollars a lesson. A good piano costs from \$150 to \$250.

A good day's work of a tailor, for a suit made neatly and comfortably. A small amount of four persons, with modest habits, can \$3,000 out of which man, however, it is \$1,000 more. A good day's work of a tailor, for a suit made neatly and comfortably—one suit at the grand up to nearly two dollars; in the smaller to

a raising tire at the whole group. [Laughter.] "I will repeat the blow at the time it is struck."

**THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS,  
FIRST SESSION.**

*Tuesday, December 22, 1857.*

SENATE

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to secure to actual settlers the alternate sections of the public lands received in grants to the States for railroads.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the President's annual message.

Mr. Fitch remarked that if the election took place in Kansas yesterday, Congressional action on the subject would soon be required; that the President's message would probably vindicate that election. In expressing his views on the question, he desired that the decision of the people of the Territory whether to admit or to reject slavery should be made by a free vote to silence his opinions; and he therefore wished to pass on the subject in advance of any pos-

sibly responsible for the pending complicated Kansas question, as well as for the popular outbreak now might result from it. He was surprised that the President should have before Congress with the declaration in his message that the election for delegates to the Convention had been made in accordance with there was reason to know that Gov. Wm. LeCombe had communicated to him, before his message was written, the fact that no registry of voters had been made in Kansas, and that the election was null and void. Mr. Fitch said that Slavery question should be deemed so positive, when, as it was generally understood in Kansas and in the Territories, that the election was virtually decided at last October election, in which the Free State candidate for delegate to Congress [Mr. Parrott] had been chosen by a large majority over Mr. Kanron, the Pro-Slavery candidate. The latter had received more than the Pro-Slavery element in that Territory because the candidate of National Democracy.

Mr. Fitch concluded with any of his paper for he was a strong party man, and had labored earnestly in behalf of Mr. Buchanan's election.

at far more interesting than

(based upon some freak of refraction.) is the following: On the summit are found, say, the remains of an ancient, strong stone fort. Now, Strabo describes such a mountain as this, with a re-heating spring at its summit, and says that the mountain is of the firmest sort, holds of King Ethibath. We longing, we go toward the towering peak, but had no time to go and verify the reports.

We found in the village a hut for our camp, and a cave under our roof, as usual. Going down the hill, which was more than half under ground, light dimly by two holes near the roof, we kindled a fire, and, as the day was far advanced, we mounted, and rested from our day's labor. First, however, it was necessary to exclude a little light came in from the world without, and to get a little of the world without down aforsaid, at which one curious pit at another was being framed in fast succession.

But alas for our anticipations of pleasure!

The Emperor, on hearing of the melancholy catastrophe, went to the spot to visit the survivors, and left a sum of money with the commander of the citadel, to be distributed among those who had labored, with indefatigable zeal, to release their companions in arms.

Madame de Wilhoist, from New York city, well known to your readers, made her first appearance on the Parisian boards as the sprightly widow of Donizetti—"Don-Pasquale." She was warmly applauded for her melodious and rich accent and energetic voice, good school, and fine acting, called forth repeated applause, in which many of her countrymen present took part. Her husband's name, however, did not seem to have inherited a large fortune, making them quite independent of the emoluments of the profession, and that her love for the art alone induced her to go on the stage as an amateur.

Among the following from the *Courrier de France*:

"Madame de Wilhoist was very well received. She has school, and is distinguished in performance."

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should feel bound to comment on some of the views expressed by the Senator immediately before him, [Mr. Douglas], he did not design to do so, but that he might, by his own voluntary act, either by promoting discord in the party, or by some other means, place himself beyond the pale of the party, as such were put to the test. If, however, there were any men in the Democratic party who wished to take a position outside of the party, or who attempted to force the issue, he would not object to be so far-fetched in the time of fact, they would do well to remember the time of every such attempt that has ever been made, from the days of Burr to the days of Douglas.

Mr. Fitch was in favor of admitting Kansas with whatever Constitution she might present there, provided it was republican in form. The question was not whether she should be admitted or withheld it, and were only responsible to the people of Kansas for the manner in which they exercised that right. He desired to adopt the course productive of the least evil to the country.

The Senate then adjourned until the 4th of January.

HOUSE.

Mr. Warren rose to a question of privilege and offered the preamble and resolutions of the House to Utah which was published several days since.

Mr. Warren said that this was a case of the country and every honest man desired to see it settled. He would not quarrel with a Delegate from a Territory which

moonlight we prepared for a  
though it was, the thousand

We fell into the shadow of the hills to skirt the river Huya, after the sun rose. It proceeded very pleasantly for a time. So many trees and flowers were in bloom, the grasses, trees, and came upon a wide, dreary plain which might have passed for an Illinois prairie, but for its utter destitution of flowers and grass. Some of the hills were bare, and indeed found root there, and served paid to bind together the caked soil, which even when yawned in wide seams; but their growth was scanty and unattractive. The river runs sun. The parched, desert-like land was as a reflector to the sun's rays, and rendered the heat almost intolerable. At the verge of the river, the land came to a sudden stop, and a shallow, covered by what seems to be a silt in a extent of small stones, strongly suggestive of the dragon's teeth sown by Cadmus. The "A" of the "A" was a small, white, big Petras" in miniature, we descended

[illegible]

He said that amount of faction with himself. He did not become the mere servile tool of any man, but he was himself bound to the majority. Every recommendation without examining to see whether it met his approbation or not. As to harmony in the Democratic party, he had no doubt. The Treasury note he had introduced President would stand by the Cincinnati platform, there would be harmony between all and himself. "Call it faction—call it was your own doing," he said. He had introduced Nebraska bill; to stand by the Cincinnati platform; to stand by the organization and principles of the party; and a deft opposition, from whatever quarter it comes. The Treasury note he introduced after an executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House went into committee on the Senate bill.

Mr. Grouss opened the reading forth of irredeemable paper currency—there being nothing in the Treasury to redeem the issue, it would add to the evils of the situation. It would be a currency which would bring forth \$200,000,000 of coin now in secret recesses, unemployed and

a road diversified by neit  
came in sight of this city,  
Pachalik" Its cool, bluish

ing of willows and Lombardy poplars looked more grateful to weary eyes than to ears after that horseback ride of fifty-four hours. Spurred on by the sight of the white pavilions and arête and its mud-colored buildings, mostly mounted by grass grown rows, it realized better than Toots, the ideal of an Orientalist, that the ideal was indeed in the pictures in "The Poetics of Geography."

Sivas is strictly, and of necessity, a commercial city: for its summers are too short and the cultivation of most agricultural products is unprofitable. The city is surrounded by enough to bud and bloom here. Only wheat and barley—the chief subsistence of man—grow. The city only sows upon the wide surrounding the city. From the hills and mountains, the plain looks like a map in a colored map—a Germany in miniature—enclosed patches of orange in various shades of red intersected by blue lines for purpose of irrigation. In consequence of the state of things, three-fourths of the fifty

of dollars, and is obtained from three principal sources:—the two hundred millions of dollars annually received from commerce and industry. The Government annually spends one hundred millions of dollars in Paris. One hundred millions of dollars is derived from a floating population of about thirty millions of French people.

The time has passed when an income of a few thousand dollars was a sufficient sum to live in style, keep a carriage and horses, and a score of servants. Madame de Staël, in a letter dated 1678, addressed to her brother, Count d'Aubigné, made an estimate of daily expenses for himself and his young wife, three children, four live-in servants, a coachman, and a horse, as follows: "Three pounds of meat, at five cents a pound—in all, three francs fifteen sous; two pieces of roast, at four sous each; wood, two francs; bread, one franc; wine, half a franc; fruit, one franc ten sous; candles, eight sous; wax candles, ten sous—in all, fourteen francs thirteen sous a day, (about three dollars.)"

But the whole expense, it was not so great as it is to-day. It would be a year's sum to cover two thousand dollars a year; a sum scarcely

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having a desire to venture which yet been known to venture-

influenced slightly by a remnant of the past for "shopping," so characteristic of our African sisterhood—we one day undertook the visit to these bazaars. We had less to fear, the fact that, although these (unlike the bazaars of Smyrna and Constantinople) are frequented by men, still the inhabitants of the city are far more polite than those of many other cities to foreigners innovating on their established customs.

From the narrow street, we passed into

The mode of living here, however, is certainly very different from that in the United States. Some families live in one house, and some occupy one room. They are generally used as stores or shops, over which comes a half story, called the *entree* sole, with low ceiling and a small window. The first floor, then the second, third, and so on up to the *mansardes* (attic): over them are the *colonnades*, or servants' rooms, with horizontal

Mr. Stuart, after an elaborate examination of the whole question, said it was not necessary to say that the people were entitled to a free constitution to detect the fraudulent design of its framers. These latter had openly avowed and justified their reasons for not submitting the Constitution, that the people would have voted it down, and hence the necessity of the plot contrived to prevent the people from voting on it.

The plan was bold, but it was not original. It sets the popular will at defiance, but in a nation of slaves, it was not altogether unexpected.

For himself, at least, he hoped for success. For himself, at least, he

but, in his opinion, the inquiry proposed was not a proper one for the people to decide by law, to confer on the innocent with guilty.

Mr. Colfax earnestly argued in favor of the resolution and contended that the people of the North were entitled to know the truth in the rebellion.

Mr. Keitt moved that the resolution be agreed to, and asked the question was decided in the affirmative—yeas 72, nays 118.

The resolution was agreed to, and the yeas were 72, and the nays 118, yeas 72, nays 118.

Mr. Fanklin, from the select committee











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